

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 3-6, and 8, cancel claims 9-24 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter therein, and add claims 25-31. Thus, claims 1-8 and 25-31 are pending in this application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims at least in light of the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 6, 13, 15, and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0164003 to Chang et al. (hereinafter "Chang"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the pending claims.

Chang at least fails to disclose an IP telephone apparatus comprising a main unit including a first notification unit and a slave including a second notification unit, as recited in claim 1. The feature of a slave was previously recited in claim 8, which was not rejected over Chang. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Chang for at least the reasons that claim 8 was patentable over Chang, as well as for the additional features it recites. Further, claims 3 and 6 are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 8, 11-17, and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,404,764 to Jones et al. (hereinafter "Jones"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the pending claims.

Jones at least fails to disclose an IP telephone apparatus comprising a main unit including a first notification unit and a slave including a second notification unit, as recited in claim 1. The Office Action alleges that the system controller 32 (which is part of gateway 10) is the claimed "main unit" (previously the IP telephone apparatus, see Office Action, p. 3) and wireless handset 30 is the claimed "slave" (see Office Action, p. 4). The system controller 32 is simply a microchip (C3/L5-26). Importantly, both the controller 32 and the handset 30 of

Jones do not each have a notification unit. Thus, Jones fails to disclose an IP telephone apparatus comprising a main unit including a first notification unit and a slave including a second notification unit, as recited in claim 1.

Because Jones fails to disclose an IP telephone apparatus comprising a main unit including a first notification unit and a slave including a second notification unit, claim 1 is patentable over Jones. Further, claims 2-5 and 8 are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

The Office Action rejects claims 6, 9, and 18 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) over Jones in view of Chang and rejects claims 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) over Jones and Chang in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0204125 to Messel. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

In particular, these rejections of the pending claims are premised upon the presumption that either Jones or Chang disclose all of the features of claim 1. Because, as discussed above, neither Jones nor Chang disclose all of the features of claim 1, the rejections are improper. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants earnestly solicit favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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